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What is claimed is:

1. A method for a handheld computer to select a 'theme' based on real time information.

2. A method for a server to select a theme and, when a handheld computer connects to it via a WAN (Wide Area Network) or LAN (Local Area Network) inform the handheld computer which theme to use.

3. A method for a server to pre-select a theme and when a handheld computer connects to it via a WAN or LAN inform the handheld computer which theme to use.

4. The method of claim 1 plus the ability to load the theme from the handheld's main memory storage area.

5. The method of claim 1 plus the ability to load the theme from the handheld's auxiliary or external storage area, if it has an auxiliary or external storage area.

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6. The method of claims 1 plus the ability to load the theme from an external server.

7. A method for determining what background image is to be displayed on a computer's output display comprising of the steps of : (a) determining what theme to display; (b) retrieving the theme; and (c) outputting the theme to the output display.

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